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# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Atty. Docket

MATTHIAS WENDT ET AL

PHD 99,182

Serial No.: 09/660,917

Art Unit: 2817

Filed: September 13, 2000

Examiner: D. TAKAOKA

NETWORK COUPLER Title:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

#### AMENDMENT

# INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office Action dated September 15, 2003, Applicants submit the following amendments and remarks.

#### IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 13 and 16 without prejudice and amend Claim 12 as follows:

# 1-11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) A coupler having a core, said core having a closed perimeter of a thickness, said coupler also including two primary windings and a secondary winding, the two primary windings crossing within the perimeter of said core, the S:\WX\Amendments\2003 Amendments\D99182.amd.doc

secondary winding being wrapped plural times around said thickness of said perimeter without crossing said primary windings, said secondary winding being comprised of wire that is a plurality of times thinner than said primary windings, said secondary winding being wrapped around said core a larger number of times than the primary windings combined, wherein the primary coils are wired symmetrically to induce identical currents, and wherein the primary and secondary coils are perpendicular to each other as arranged on the core.

## 13. (Cancelled)

- 14. (Previously Presented) The coupler of claim 13 wherein the number of turns in the secondary coil is at least five times the number of turns in the primary coils.
- 15. (Previously Added) The coupler of claim 14 wherein the primary coils are thick enough to carry power and data, and wherein the secondary coil is not thick enough to carry the data.

# 16. (Cancelled)

### REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated September 15, 2003. Claims 12 and 14-15 remain pending in this application. Claim 12 is the independent claim.

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication that Claims 15 and 16 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 12 has been amended to include the limitations of Claims 16 and intervening Claim 13 and is believed allowable.

On the merits, the Office Action rejected Claims 12-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Spreen (U.S. Patent No. 5,168,440; hereinafter "Spreen") in view of Duspiva et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,965,712; hereinafter "Duspiva"). Applicant respectfully believes the amendments to Claim 12 render the rejection moot and requests its withdrawal.

14-15 depend from independent Claim 12 discussed above and are believed patentable for at least the same reasons. In addition, Applicant respectfully believes Claims 14-15 to be independently patentable and requests separate consideration of each claim.

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In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached by telephone at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

Aaron Waxler,

Reg. 48,027 (914) 333-9608

December 15, 2003